GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4745
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
PREVENTION OF LIVER CANCER
Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cup of coffee has the potential to prevent liver cancer;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the findings to this effect by a research team led by Monami Inove of the National Cancer Centre in Tokyo;

(c) if so, the details of findings; and

(d) the reaction of the medical fraternity in India in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (d): According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a study conducted by National Cancer Centre, Tokyo, Japan on the association between coffee drinking and Hepato-Cellular Carcinoma (HCC) in a Japanese population has indicated that habitual coffee drinking may be associated with reduced risk of HCC. However, the reported association has to be replicated in studies in different settings and a biologically plausible explanation is required to be identified before drawing firm conclusion in this regard.